



# HPV Fact Sheet

Genital HPV infection, caused by human papillomavirus (HPV), is one strain of more than thirty sexually transmitted disease viruses caused by HPV. Human papillomavirus currently affects more than half of sexually active individuals at some point in their lives.

## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Individuals with genital HPV infection may have symptoms within weeks or months, or may be asymptomatic (without symptoms).

Symptoms of genital warts include:

- Soft, moist, pink, or flesh-colored swellings/bumps on or near genital area, anus, or thighs
- Cauliflower shaped swellings

## TRANSMISSION

- Vaginal, anal, or oral sex
- Infected mother to newborn during vaginal childbirth

## COMPLICATIONS/CONSEQUENCES

If untreated genital wart infections may result in:

- Abnormal pap smear test
- Increased risk for cervical cancer, and/or penile cancer
- Increased risk for acquiring HIV infection

If untreated in pregnancy, genital wart infection can lead to:

- Development of warts in the throat or voice box of baby

## TREATMENT

There is no treatment for HPV infection and most infections disappear normally. However, medication is directed towards the removal of genital warts or pre-cancerous changes in association with the infection.

## PREVENTION

- Abstain from sexual contact
- Appropriate use of latex condoms consistently and correctly during vaginal, anal, and oral sex on a penis
- Routine screening with pap smear test
- Discontinue sexual contact if signs or symptoms occur
- Screening test during pregnancy
- Notify all recent sex partners if infected

### Contact Information:

For more information pertaining to Florida clinical services, sites, and treatment recommendations please visit us on the web at [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/std/clinical/clinical.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/std/clinical/clinical.html) or email us at: [HSD\\_STD@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:HSD_STD@doh.state.fl.us).

### National STD Hotline

1-800-227-8922 (24 hrs, 7 days a week)

### Spanish

1-800-344-7432 (8am-2pm EST, 7 days a week)

### Hearing Impaired

1-800-243-7889 (10am-10pm EST, Mon.-Fri.)